

THE MORNING NEWS

Your Source for local news in English

Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Aruba Carnival Children and Youth Queen 2011



Reina Infantil Josienne Victoria Maduro and Reina Hube-nil Mikayla Andreina Maria Ruiz

Pandora proved perfect for Valentine's Day shoppers



Some lucky lady is getting Pandora for Valentine's Day (top photo); Give her your heart on Valentine's Day (top right photo).

Last Friday, Valentine's Day was only one weekend away, and many took the opportunity to look for that special gift while enjoying a sparkling blush wine and extravagant cheese plates at the Pandora Store in the Paseo Herencia Mall, which was prepared for the shopping rush.

"We are not selling jewelry here," commented one of the enthusiastic staff, "Pandora is about memories and special moments."

Indeed, the Palm Beach store can lay claim to the most extensive and diverse collection of artistic beads of Murano glass, gold and silver for create-you-own-bracelets, necklaces and rings, than any brand sold on Aruba.

Chris and Melissa, on vacation from Michigan, are admitted fans of Pandora, and Bryan from Chicago thought it might be a nice surprise for his mother, Lois, or her mother, Anita. They all found the store fascinating, and the selection appealing.

Pandora was defining love and the perfect gift for Valentine's Day, offering opportunities for individual creativity, or sassy suggestions such as the pre-strung bracelets named "The Lady Loves Red" and "Pretty in Pink."

Continued on page 5



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Women call time on Berlusconi in mass protests

ROME (AFP) – Hundreds of thousands of women took to Italy's streets Sunday in protest against Silvio Berlusconi, as a key rival launched a scathing attack at the start of a crucial week for the embattled leader.

"Enough!" shouted the tens of thousands who crowded into Piazza del Popolo, a square in central Rome, as protesters voiced their anger at the distorted image of Italian women generated by the prime minister's numerous sex scandals.

One organiser, actress Angela Finocchiaro, estimated the total number of people taking part -- including many men and children -- at one million across the country.

In Naples, a sign held up during a march there read: "No Bunga Bunga!" -- a reference to the alleged orgies held by the prime minister in his residences.

"We're here to say that Italian women are not all like Berlusconi's prostitutes. It's a horrible image that we're giving. We've become a joke in the rest of the world," said Maria Rosa Veritta, a protester in Milan.

There were also small protests in solidarity in Brussels, Lisbon and Tokyo, as well as in Lyon, Paris and Toulouse in France.

Protesters in Brussels held up placards reading: "We are not for sale", "You have to leave now" and "100 percent Italian, 0 percent Berlusconi".

ian".

Organisers said the rallies were prompted by Berlusconi's alleged liaisons with prostitutes and lurid media coverage of the affairs, but also aimed to draw attention to wider problems for women's rights in Italian society.

The women's protests were organised by sisters Francesca and Cristina Comencini, both actresses, who argue that Berlusconi's playboy antics and his sexist comments are only a reflection of the misogyny in Italian society.

Marxist rebels free another hostage in Colombia

IBAGUE (AFP) - Marxist rebels on Sunday freed another hostage held in the Colombian jungle to waiting International Red Cross staff, the ICRC said.

Police officer Carlos Ocampo, the first of three the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) has said it will set free on Sunday, has been handed over to ICRC staff, its spokeswoman Maria Cristina Rivera told reporters in this small town 200 kilometers (124 miles) west of Bogota.

Ocampo, who was working as a bodyguard for a mayor, had been kidnapped in late 2010.

A helicopter provided by Brazil then headed back to refuel at Chaparral air base, before moving to pick up the other two hostages expected to be released Sunday: police major Guillermo Solorzano and army corporal Salin Sanmiguel, Rivera added.

It is the latest in a series of FARC hostage releases. Between February 9 and 11 they freed councilmen Marcos Baquero and Armando Acuna, as well as marine Henry Lopez.

The FARC is holding 16 other police and soldiers they hope to swap for jailed guerrillas.

FARC, which has been at war with the Colombian government since 1964, has between 7,000 and 11,000 fighters.

The rebels have long demanded a hostage-for-prisoner swap, something both President Juan Manuel Santos and his predecessor, Alvaro Uribe, have refused to consider.

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Egypt military leaders dismantles Mubarak regime

CAIRO (AFP) – Egypt's new military regime dismantled ousted strongman Hosni Mubarak's former regime on Sunday, dissolving parliament, suspending the constitution and promising a referendum on political reform.

While the civilian cabinet met for the first time since Mubarak's downfall, the generals made it clear where authority now lies, issuing a proclamation setting a six-month timetable to prepare democratic elections.

The latest moves spelled the end of the political system that underpinned Mubarak's 30-year rule which ended on Friday when he was driven from power after an 18-day pro-democracy uprising.

The Supreme Council of the Armed Forces' "communique number five" said it would "run the affairs of the country on a temporary basis



An Egyptian man hugs an army commander at Cairo's Tahrir Square, the epicentre of the popular revolt that drove veteran strongman Hosni Mubarak from power.(AFP)

for six months or until the end of parliamentary and presidential elections."

The communique -- read on state television -- said the military would form a panel to rewrite the constitution, which

effectively locked down power for Mubarak's National Democratic Party (NDP), and submit it to a referendum.

The dissolved legislative body was seen as illegitimate following elections last year that were marred by widespread allegations of fraud and gave the NDP an overwhelming majority.

The statement also confirmed that the chairman of the supreme military council, Mubarak's defence minister Field Marshal Mohammed Hussein Tantawi, is now de facto head of state and represents Egypt on the international stage.

The moves came as the famed Egyptian Museum announced that several priceless artefacts had been looted during the initial unrest sparked by the revolt and the widely hated police force marched in support of the uprising.

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EDITORIAL

They deserve respect and dignity: Pay them first!

They worked hard, laboring for what they helped Aruba become - a better Aruba. Today, they grace our community with their wisdom, understanding and wealth of experience. It is an undisputed fact that retirees in any community speak volumes for a community's vibrancy, economic stability and resilience.

Most of us were young children when under the able leadership of statesman Juancho Yrausquin Aruba introduced the national pension plan for all employees. Today Aruba is replete with many who have attained the young age of 60 who are benefitting from this national pension fund. We call them young, because for any observer, it is obvious that the great majority of our 60 year pensioners are people full of vigor, vitality, physical stamina and incredible wisdom and experience. The vast majority still enjoy excellent physical health!

These are the people who worked 30, 35, or 40 some years juggling between managing a family, taking care of their property (home) and employment. Some worked those many years for the same employer, while others shared them with more than one employer. Many would tell you that they worked their fingers to the bone to provide for themselves and their loved ones. Many worked long hours at their jobs. Many can tell stories about their "graveyard" shifts (11 p.m. to 7 a.m. or 12 p.m. to 8 a.m.) and how that taxed their body.

These are the people who many times went way beyond the call of duty to serve their employer, to meet deadlines, to complete a project, to help save their company, to save a boss' reputation, or to simply comply with their work responsibility and make the company look good. Today, they depend on the national pension fund to make ends meet.

Aruba has a fairly decent pension fund from which all citizens who reach the re-

spectable retirement age of 60 receive a monthly check. We say a decent fund in comparison to the many countries where no such fund is available or where in some countries only less than a stipend is paid. We applaud the fact that Aruba does have such a fund and that every effort is currently being made to protect that fund and to guarantee its eternal existence.

However, when we observe the manner in which our pensioners are treated with respect to the pension fund, we cringe in dismay. These people deserve respect and dignity. We show them respect and dignity when we offer them the 'first seats in the house,' the first place in line. We show them respect and dignity when we pay them first!

To have pensioners wait one or more weeks past the end of a month to receive the pension money is not acceptable. Many of our pensioners live from pension check to pension check, and at the end of the month they are screaming for money to get them through another month. Others, who receive two pension checks, one, because they were once civil servants who are beneficiary to the civil servants' pension program, and the other, the National Pension Fund, get both checks on the 19th, 20th or 21st of each month!

Whereas our pensioners receiving only the National Pension Fund payment have to wait until into the following month to around the 3rd, 4th, or 5th of the month, depending on how the weekend falls for each month! This is definitely not the respect and dignity that our pensioners deserve! This is a far cry from what someone who gave so much to his country deserves!

We are convinced that this can and will be corrected. That henceforth, special attention will be given to rectify this unacceptable situation. It is no secret that the way we treat our pensioners or senior citizens is a reflection of our self worth!

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Artful shoes are news at La Boutique!

The Art Department of the International School of Aruba (ISA) always has original and innovative ideas for their students' projects, and this year, for Valentine's Day and the carnival season, the 8th grade classes were prompted to design shoes.

Patrizia Gelvatti, proprietor of La Boutique, which is known for its very trendy Italian made shoes, was entranced by the project, and suggested to Art Teacher Anita van der Sloot that she have her students put an exposition in her shop located

in Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach.

The results are a delightful collection on display through today and tomorrow until 10:00 p.m.; certainly worth a look to enjoy the humor and creativity of the aspiring young designers.

Student artists Maria Pintaudi, Maria Andrade, Lismar Simancas and Lee-Ann Rasool were present for the opening of the exhibition last Saturday afternoon, proudly showing off their work. Lee-Ann's creation is a Cupid theme, with traditional Valentine's Day colors of pink and red; a color scheme repeated often for the holiday themed shoes.

Sequins and feathers which dominate Ekta Alwani's design are a definitive reference to Carnival; boys in the class tended to stereotypic boy themes; turning running shoes into rockets and airplanes. Oriella Mansur produced a funky happy face and Ezra Irme Zegers turned her footwear into a fuzzy (bunny? Mouse? Chipmunk? You guess!)

Perhaps in the future we will watch a 50-something Carrie Bradshaw on screen mooning over some extravagantly priced "Maria Pintaudi's" she covets in an exclusive New York shoe boutique!

by Rosalie Klein



Lee Ann Rasool and Maria Andrade hug their creations



Anita and some of her students



February 14
Valentine's Day
MENU

Amuse Bouche
Lover's Delight

Oyster Cream Soup
Creamy Oyster Soup perfumed with Lemongrass and served with Bacon Bits and Caribbean Relish
Or
Special Seafood and Vegetable Tempura Salad with Ginger Asian Dressing

Entrees
Seabass and Filet Mignon
A combination of marinated Seabass with Pineapple Sauce accompanied by Grilled Filet Mignon served with our Blueberry Sauce, Seasonal Vegetables and Pumpkin Mashed
Or
Cowboy Ribeye Steak and Seared Scallops
Grilled Cowboy Steak with Creamy Peppercorn Sauce accompanied by Pan Seared Jumbo Scallops with our homemade Red Beet Mango Chutney served with Seasonal Vegetables and mashed Potatoes

Dessert
Chocolate Fondant Cake with Tres Leches Ice Cream, Fresh Strawberries, Raspberry Sauce and whipped topping

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Pandora proved perfect for Valentine's Day shoppers

Continued from page 1



Bryan from Chicago looking for a perfect gift for Mom Lois and Grandma Anita

Conventional holiday colors were not the only designs offered, as sleek and stylish black and white combos and those based on the blues and hues of the Caribbean proved equally popular.

There is still one more day for some last minute shopping and a chance to find a gift any woman would love at the Pandora store!

by Rosalie Klein



Chris and Melissa enjoy wine, cheese and a vast selection of Pandora charms



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Sci-Tech

Could smartphones go stupid?

PARIS (AFP) – Smartphones are rapidly becoming ubiquitous, but they risk becoming a victim of their own success, so clogging networks they are unable to do many of the smart applications that fuelled their sales.

Analysts warn that the mobile industry soon faces growing pains, with congestion choking service at peak times and locations, and operators forced to hike prices and capping or slowing data use.

In either case many popular services that have driven smartphone sales could suffer.

Mobile industry leaders recognise this threat and it will be one of the key questions they address this coming week at their annual gathering.

More than 50,000 people from over 1,300 companies are set to attend the four-day Mobile World Congress opening today in Barcelona, including executives from dozens of top firms.

Sales of smartphones have rocketed over the past few years -- nearly 470 million of



them sold in the past two years according to Gartner market research firm -- and developing nifty applications for them has become a major industry in itself.

But with each smartphone generating as much as 24 times as much data traffic as a regular mobile phone the volume of network traffic has exploded, with the network firm Cisco forecasting it to grow 26-fold by 2015.

Mobile operators have been hard pressed to keep up. "The explosion in data

traffic and the strain on networks is beginning to show with service quality already suffering," Torbjørn Sandberg, chief executive of Birdstep mobile connectivity firm, said in a recent statement.

While spectacular overloading of networks such as with AT&T in the United States and O2 in Britain in December 2009 -- which the carrier linked to smartphone use -- is rare, users more often encounter dropped calls and slower service at rush hour or in crowded public transport.

"Bandwidth congestion will continue to be a serious problem for operators, especially in the most populated areas during peak usage times," said Merav Bahat of Flash Networks, a company which helps operators improve network performance.

"It will not render smartphones dumb, but it will frustrate users who expect a wireline-like experience on their mobile device," she added.

Congestion hits first the bandwidth-hogging and most

popular smartphone application -- video.

Video streaming already accounts for 37 percent of mobile data traffic, according to the latest Mobile Trends Report by Allot Communication, and Cisco expects video to account for two-thirds of traffic by 2015.

But frequent interruptions would render video streaming nearly unusable at peak traffic times.

Video calls on mobiles, which may finally take off this year, would also suffer, as would voice calls on alternative services such as Skype.

E-mail and web browsing would continue to function, but at slower speeds.

Operators have already begun put smartphone users on a data diet, either limiting use or slowing data speeds after a certain volume has been reached.

"Unlimited data has already come to an end because most operators realise there isn't sufficient capacity available in the network," said Coleago Consulting CEO Stefan Zehle.

But expensive data diets stunt the development of the market, Magnus Rehle of Greenwich Consulting noted, leaving operators with the early adopters which are heavy data users rather than a mass subscriber base with different usage patterns.

Mobile operators are also scrambling to add more capacity, but according to recent calculations by network

optimization firm Tellabs, they could run themselves into the red in three years trying to build to meet forecast data growth.

"Carriers can spend themselves bankrupt well before users run out of hunger for capacity," said Tellabs chief executive Rob Pullen.

A recent report by the A.T. Kearney consulting firm calculated that at current trends mobile operators will end up 21 billion euros (\$28.5 billion) short of the amount needed over the next four years to expand their networks to keep up with forecast data growth.

A number of firms such as Tellabs say that the problem is not smart phones but dumb networks, and offer technology that promises to create intelligent networks that optimize the flow of data, allowing operators to do more with less.

But as the A.T. Kearney report noted, improving networks and hiking fees for consumers is unlikely to be sufficient without addressing the video streaming sites who are paying almost nothing to pump huge amounts of data across networks to consumers and have few incentives to compress data.

The consultancy concluded there are "clear structural problems in the economic model" of the fixed and mobile Internet "making it increasingly inefficient and ultimately unsustainable as traffic growth continues..."



RENTON, WASHINGTON: The 747-8 Intercontinental's cabin, featuring larger windows and new lighting is displayed in a mock up at the Boeing Customer Experience Center in Renton, Washington. The new plane, which was unveiled February 13, 2011, features quieter more fuel efficient engines, more passenger seating and redesigned interiors. (AFP photo)



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Health & Living**US approves first 3-D mammogram**

WASHINGTON (AFP) – The first three-dimensional mammogram device was approved this past weekend by the US Food and Drug Administration, in the hopes that the new technology would improve early breast cancer detection.

Currently the only technology on the market produces two-dimensional X-ray images of the breast.

"Physicians can now access this unique and innovative 3-D technology that could significantly enhance existing diagnosis and treatment approaches," said Jeffrey Shuren, director of the FDA's Center for Devices and Radiological Health.

A pair of studies reviewed by the FDA showed a seven percent improvement in the ability of radiologists to "distinguish between cancerous and non-cancerous cases as compared to viewing 2-D images alone," the regulatory agency said.

The new device, called the Selenia Dimensions System, is made by the Massachusetts-based company Hologic and functions as an upgrade to its current 2-D FDA approved system.

The new technology "produces three-dimensional images which are intended to reveal the inner architecture of the breast, free from the distortion typically caused by tissue shadowing or density," the company said in a statement.

The FDA said the time it takes to capture the 2-D and 3-D images "approximately doubled the radiation dose the patient received" but that any additional risk was believed to be low.

"There is uncertainty for radiation risk estimates; however, the increase in cancer risk from having both a 2-D and 3-D exam is expected to be less than 1.5 percent compared to the natural cancer incidence, and less than one percent compared to the risk from conventional 2-D mammography," the FDA said.

The US agency also noted the 3-D approach "improved the accuracy with which radiologists detected cancers, decreasing the number of women recalled for a diagnostic workup."

The National Cancer Institute recommends that women over 40 get mammograms to screen for breast cancer every one or two years.

AWENOCHI: transmission DEN DJE

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US study links pesticides to Parkinson's disease

WASHINGTON (AFP) – US researchers said Friday they have found that people who used two specific varieties of pesticide were 2.5 times as likely to develop Parkinson's disease.

The pesticides, paraquat and rotenone, are not approved for house and garden use. Previous research on animals has linked paraquat to Parkinson's disease, so it is

restricted to use by certified applicators.

Rotenone is approved only for use in killing invasive fish species.

"Rotenone directly inhibits the function of the mitochondria, the structure responsible for making energy in the cell," said study co-author Freya Kamel, a researcher at the National Institute of Environmental Health

Sciences.

"Paraquat increases production of certain oxygen derivatives that may harm cellular structures. People who used these pesticides or others with a similar mechanism of action were more likely to develop Parkinson's disease."

The study examined 110 people with Parkinson's disease and 358 people who

served as a control group from the Farming and Movement Evaluation (FAME) Study.

FAME is part of a larger Agricultural Health Study looking at the health of approximately 90,000 licensed pesticide applicators and their spouses.

The study appears in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives.



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Louis Vuitton revived the Sprouse Punk Glamour



For Valentine's Day 2011, Louis Vuitton revived the Sprouse punk glamour by dressing up the small leather goods, as well as the accessories, shoes, watches and textiles with the "Leopard" print, which has been reinterpreted in chic and stylish colours for this special occasion.

In 2001, Stephen Sprouse (1953-2004), one of the most influential artists and fashion designers of the eighties, pioneer of the pop rock and punk trend, helped Marc Jacobs to reinterpret Louis Vuitton's classics, tagging them with the Graffiti logo, among which the iconic Portefeuille Sarah and the Zippy Wallet.

In 2009, Louis Vuitton paid

tribute to the artist animating leather goods and accessories with the Graffiti logo designed in flashy colors and the Roses logo, created by Stephen Sprouse for the Maison.

This theme is very trendy thanks to the Leopard pattern and its iconic Louis Vuitton signature at the bottom. Louis Vuitton Aruba store has prepared a special 4 day valentine atmosphere for all their guest that aspire a very special attention for their loved ones on this special day. We invite you to enter the Louis Vuitton Universe visiting our Aruba store from February 10th until 14th, the store is open from Monday through Saturday from 10 am up to 8 pm.

Josiene Victoria Maduro is Aruba's Children's Carnival Queen 2011



L. to r. Best Speech Alviana Davina Arends

Petit Josiene Maduro, representing Don Flip, nearly swept the Children's Carnival Queen Pageant by also being selected for Best Show, Best Costume and SETAR Carnival Princess Award, which is decided by popular vote

through SMS texting. She made a big impression from the moment she stepped on stage in a remarkable costume. Second Runner-up, Alviana Davina Arends of TOB Carnival Group won Best Speech; First Runner-up

Best Costume Children's queen Josiene Maduro

Thahira Thais Wever of KIDS Group won Most Popular; they also sported stunning Carnival costumes.

The Carnival Queen elections in all ages are breathtaking for their pageantry and professionalism, from the cre-

Most popular infantil candidate thahira Thais Wever

ations of the costumes and gowns, to the sumptuous productions that showcase the talents of the young candidates. All three girls demonstrated remarkable poise and showmanship for their years, and it is certain the panel of judges

had a tough time selecting this one to reign supreme. Congratulations to Josiene and all the young ladies from THE MORNING NEWS for their spectacular stage presence and performances.

by Rosalie Klein

Le Petit Café
Restaurant



Valentine's Day Special

Free bottle of Champagne per couple



Caesar Salad or
Keeshi Yena or
Lovers Seafood Soup or
Lovers Seafood Platter



- * Breaded Jumbo Shrimp
(with sweet and sour sauce) or
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~Author Unknown

Breakfast

7:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

EGG DISHES

*2 eggs sunny side up
with ham & cheese

*Scrambled
with ham, cheese, onions,
green pepper, tomato, mushroom

*Plain omelettes
with ham, cheese, onion, green pepper,
tomato, mushroom

All egg dishes are served with a choice of :
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*SWEET CRÊPES

*BAGEL with cream cheese,
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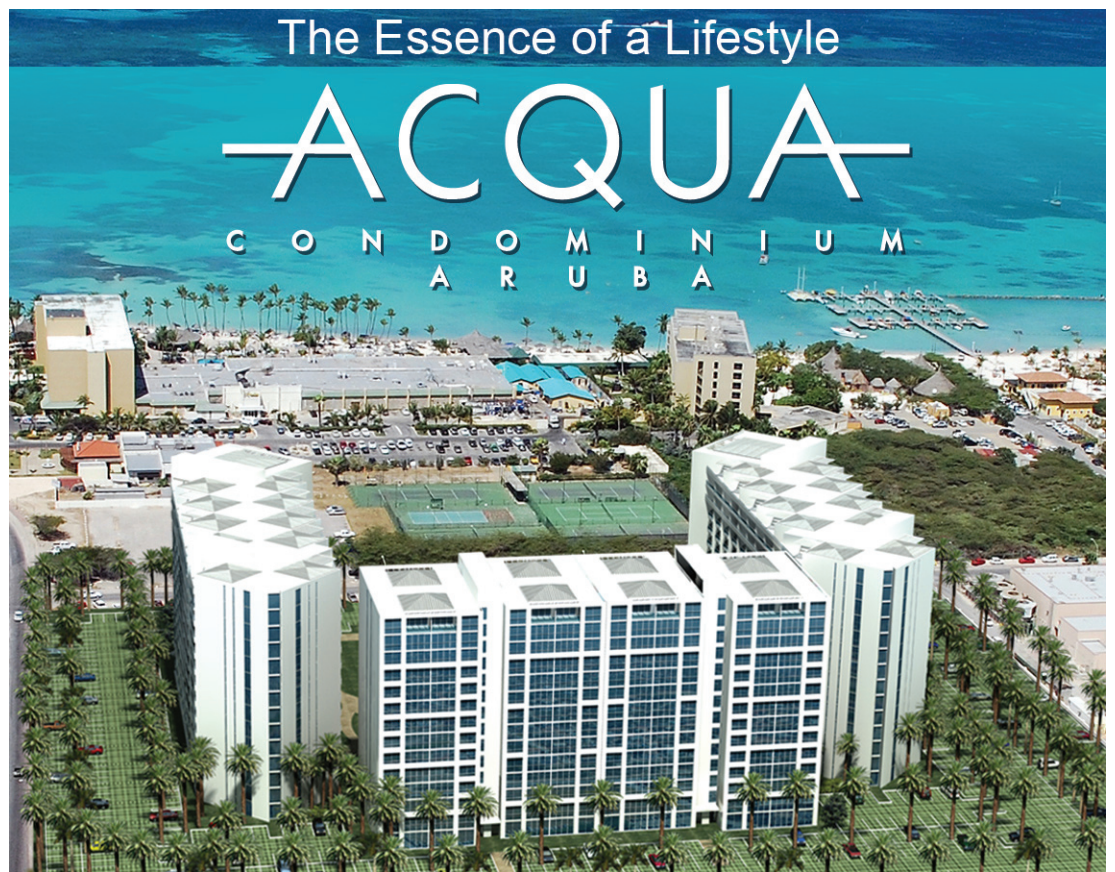
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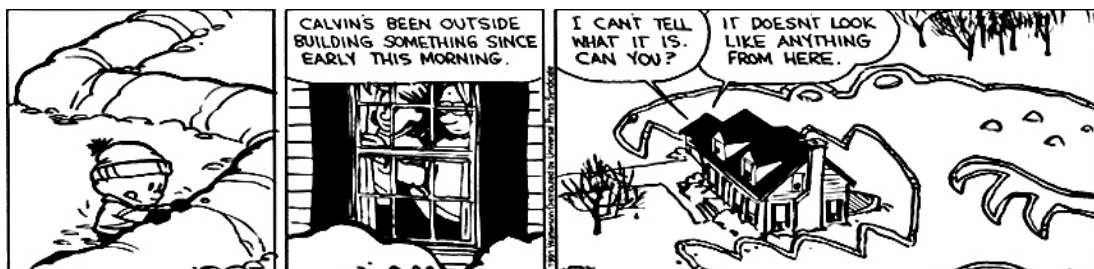
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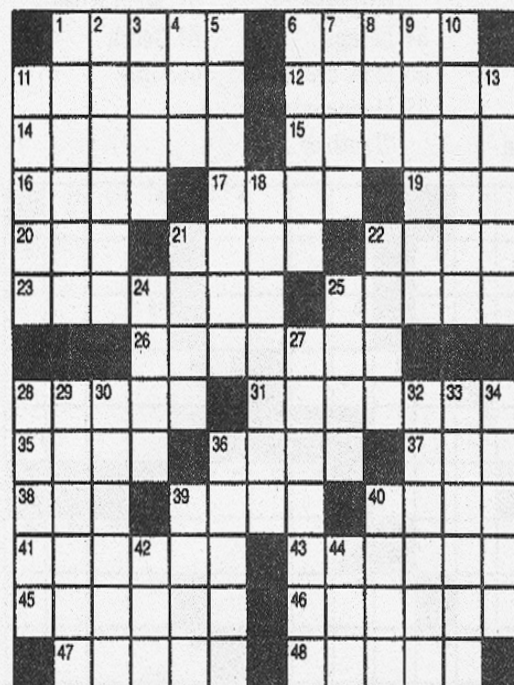
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ACROSS

1. Certain button
6. Emulate Rickey Henderson

11. Beach hut

12. Kind of paper
14. Biblical landfall
15. Come out



16. Take second
17. Teen's problem
19. Past
20. ___ de la Cite
21. Land map
22. Arabian gulf
23. Of the government
25. Debtors
26. Hollow
28. Acute
31. Precious element
35. Japanese aboriginal
36. Cheese base
37. African antelope
38. Pinup showing
39. Female title
40. Golf stroke
41. Ipecac, e.g.
43. Narrow waterway
45. Western Indian
46. Stick ___ guns:
2 wds.
47. Shop tool
48. Colas

DOWN

1. Conditional release
2. Lowered
3. Loki's son

4. Balin or Claire
5. Romance language of Spain
6. Fragrance
7. Gentle
8. Before
9. Wear off
10. Lumberjack
11. Western st.
13. Bright lights
18. Bone necessity
21. Stage item
22. Overcome
24. Beige
25. Roman poet
27. Takes in
28. Soupy
29. Of winter
30. Miss Lansbury
32. "The Night of the ___"
33. Opens
34. Mongrels
36. Hidden store
39. Platter
40. Poke
42. Small bird, for short
44. Also

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February 12 - February 19

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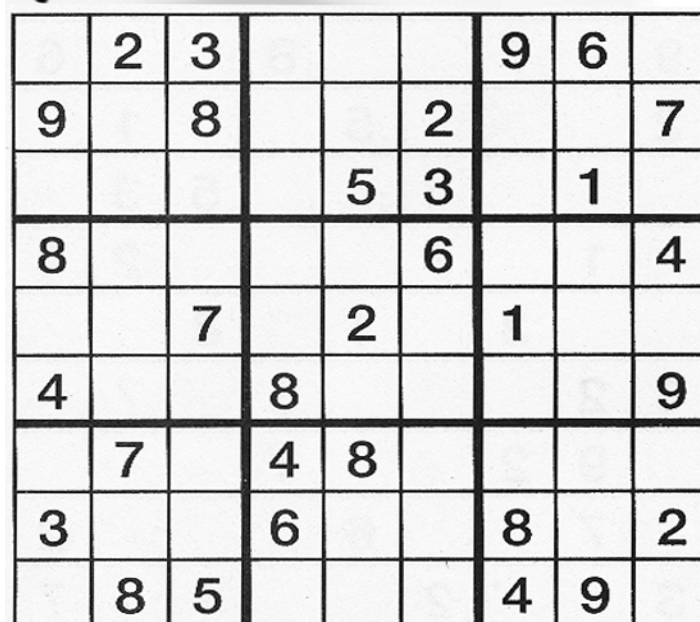
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582-5447
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

1	6	7	2	8	3	9	8	9
2	2	8	9	1	9	6	4	8
8	9	9	6	8	4	1	2	2
6	2	9	1	2	8	9	8	4
9	8	1	4	2	8	2	6	9
4	8	2	9	6	9	2	1	8
8	1	2	8	9	6	4	9	2
2	4	8	2	9	1	8	9	6
9	9	6	8	4	7	3	2	1

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

BRIEFS:

EU, IMF seek to repair Greek rift over asset sale

ATHENS, Greece (AFP) – The EU and IMF yesterday hastened to prevent a rift with Greece after the debt-hit country slammed one of their auditors over controversial calls for a huge state asset sale to keep Athens' tortuous recovery on track.

The two organisations and the European Central Bank, which are supervising a tough austerity mandate for Greece, issued a statement expressing "the deepest respect" for the "tremendous" fiscal overhaul undertaken in Athens.

The three, known as the 'troika' in Greece, added that the ongoing austerity measures were based on "mutual trust."

=====

Boeing unveils new, bigger 747-8 jet to cool response

UNITED KINGDOM (AFP) -- Boeing rolled out a new bigger jumbo jet yesterday almost 42 years to the day since the 747 changed the face of the travel industry.

The 747-8 carries 467 passengers, 51 more than the current 747 range, burns less fuel, has new wings, tail and engines, is more comfortable and is 19 feet longer, says Boeing.

Airlines have given a cool reception to the new plane with Boeing so far picking up only 33 orders from two airlines, Lufthansa and Korean Air Lines.

=====

G20 sees two steps to tackling global imbalances

BRUSSELS, Belgium – Finance ministers from the world's 20 biggest developed and developing economies (G20) are likely to agree next week on a two-stage approach to tackling global economic imbalances, a European Union document showed.

Such imbalances, reflected in the current account balance, private and public savings, debt and capital flows, can trigger or augment crises, destabilizing the world economy. G20 leaders agreed in November to find a way to tackle them.

The first step would be to identify the imbalances using an agreed set of economic indicators and benchmark values.

The second step would be to analyze the causes of the imbalances and possibly make policy recommendations on how to deal with them.

The two-step approach has been agreed on by G20 deputy finance ministers who met in Paris for a preparatory meeting on January 14-15, the EU terms-of-reference document for EU G20 delegations to the Paris meeting on Feb 18-19 showed.

=====

Venezuela spends over \$1.5B per year on fuel subsidy

CARACAS, Venezuela --Venezuela spends more than \$1.5 billion a year on a subsidy that keeps the South American country's domestic fuel prices the lowest in the world, Oil Minister Rafael Ramirez said yesterday during a government television program. Speaking during his weekly show "Hello, President!" President Chavez said domestic consumption will have to be decreased. The amount of fuel used by Venezuelans ballooned last year thanks to power shortages that forced the country to divert oil for electricity production. Compared with the cost of production, the subsidy costs more than \$1.5 billion per year, Ramirez said.

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Apple developing smaller, cheaper iPhones

WASHINGTON (AFP) – Apple is developing a new line of smaller and cheaper iPhones and overhauling its software to facilitate users' access to entertainment, photos and video, The Wall Street Journal reported yesterday.

The new device -- code-named "N97" -- will be about half the size of the iPhone 4 and cost about half as much as Apple's main line of iPhones, the Journal said, citing a person who saw a prototype of the new gadget several months ago.

Meanwhile, the computer and electronics giant is also re-vamping its MobileMe online storage service, which currently requires users to pay between \$99 and \$149 per year, and possibly making it a free service so users could upload



Customers check out the new Apple iPhone 4

photos and videos there instead of on devices, according to the report.

The move would free up memory space on the smartphones and MobileMe could also serve as a platform for a new online music service which has been in the works for over a year.

Despite taking medical leave in January, Apple's chief executive Steve Jobs has been closely involved in the developments, one of his top priorities, the newspaper said.

The new devices and software are due out this summer, but the Journal noted that those plans may change.

Obama seeks \$1.1 trillion deficit cuts, 'tough choices'

WASHINGTON (AFP) - President Barack Obama's fiscal 2012 budget aims to cut the massive federal deficit by \$1.1 trillion over 10 years, White House budget chief Jack Lew said yesterday, warning of "tough choices" ahead.

That figure is more than double the \$400 billion of cuts in non-essential programs Obama unveiled in his State of the Union address last month as part of a five-year spending freeze. The president said those savings would take place over 10 years.

Lew said Obama's "responsible" budget, which the president is due to present to Congress today, will also cut the ballooning deficit in half by the end of his first term in January 2013.

"The challenge we have is to live within our means but also invest in the future," he added on CNN.

Lew has outlined a series of targeted cuts, including \$350 million from community service funding and \$300 million from Community Development Block grants for housing assistance and infrastructure development.

And graduate student loans would also have to accrue in-

terest while students are completing their studies, though the interest would not have to be paid until the person graduates.

But the budget aims to also "make sure nine million students can go to college" through grants and teacher training, according to Lew.

"It's not possible to do this painlessly," he continued. "We made some tough choices."

The budget is also expected to cut \$78 billion from the defense budget over five years, slash energy subsidies for the poor and freeze public worker pay.

Republicans criticized Obama's budget proposals for doing too little to reduce the deficit and control spending.

"He's going to present a budget tomorrow that will continue to destroy jobs by spending too much, borrowing too much and taxing too much," House Speaker John Boehner told NBC's "Meet the Press."

Asked about a potential government shutdown if lawmakers fail to agree on compromise legislation to keep the federal government operating uninterrupted, Boehner said Republicans were simply aiming to "reduce spending. Our

goal is not to shut down the government."

House Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, a fellow Republican, said the latest plan was "very small on spending discipline" and did not differ much from Obama's previous proposals.

"It looks like the debt's going to continue rising under this budget," Ryan told "Fox News Sunday."

"Presidents are elected to lead, not to punt. And this president has been punting."

Republicans have proposed major cuts to popular programs totaling \$100 billion for the remainder of the current fiscal year that runs through September 30.

SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer

OMAR	ARAB	POT
WADER	COLA	AVID
ERODE	IDES	GENE
SIR	LODE	EMERGE
ENDED	ASTER	
ONE	AMID	
PAINT	DEMEANOR	
IDLE	SCALP	VARY
TELEGRAM	TEPEE	
LADS	TOR	
PARSE	RATER	
ELOPED	TOYS	VAN
TIDE	ATOM	TRACE
SEEN	RARE	SIDES
NOD	EDEN	BEST

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Dining al fresco at Las Ramblas-an excellent option for Valentine's Day



Rodrigo dances at the grill

Almost a year ago, La Cabana All Suite Beach Resort moved their Spanish-themed café, Las Ramblas, to a seaside location, and the ambiance and affordable menu makes it a very nice choice for a romantic dinner.

song stylings of Tomas, and you have a perfect holiday combination. They are offering a four-course special dinner with complimentary champagne for only \$90 for two, but their a la carte offerings are so reasonable, you will find either option appealing.

A peek at the grill revealed what is likely Aruba's only dancing chef, as Rodrigo was bouncing around happily while grilling up fresh steaks, fish and shrimp. Local fishermen stop by regularly to deliver their catch of the day. THE MORNING NEWS taste-testers snuck in for a sample of a variety of their appetizer selections, and we enjoyed every morsel;



tapas, sangria and sunset

Nothing is more suited to Valentine's Day than dining under the stars, preceded by some luscious tapas while savoring sangria and a stunning Aruban sunset. Las Ramblas offers very congenial service and a surprisingly priced menu that will add to your enjoyment. Add to that the mellow

memorable evening with friends and a table full of tapas while listening to music that still allowed for lively conversation. We also heartily suggest the Steamed Mussels and Avocado and Shrimp appetizers, and the Escargots were a revelation; particularly the sauce that we all sopped up with nice, crusty bread.



Bruchetta

Las Ramblas is very popular among its loyal patrons for its steaks, and we must give Executive Chef Sonny kudos for the fabulous sauce on an extremely generous portion of New Zealand Lamb Chops.



Warm goat cheese

We also found the desserts quite extravagant, but with that right touch of sweetness to end the meal.

Las Ramblas offers delightful dining al fresco, with entertainment, five nights a week;



Skewered scallops

closed on Wednesdays and Sundays. The cozy corner of the resort has limited seating, we recommend calling 520-1100 ext 6154 for reservations.

by Roslie Klein

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Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers, airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV, high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.



"The greater portion of home owners are using their 'home away from home' in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: www.goldcoastaruba.com to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.

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Aruba's crowns their Carnival Youth Queen 2011-Mikayla Andreina Ruiz

Members of the Champagne Carnival group went wild as their queen candidate for the 48th Carnival Youth Queen Elections was crowned at the end of a long night of competition. The elections were combined with the selection and coronation of Children's Carnival Queen, with 3 candidates in each age division.

The extravagant event took place in the Aruba Entertainment Center on Saturday night, February 12, combined with the 36th Child Queen Elections. Mikayla Andreina Ruiz was announced the Youth Queen of Carnival 57. She was also named Most Popular for the enormous amount of support in the stadium and SETAR Youth Queen, which is decided by popular vote through SMS texting. Sue-Gin Sangelie Arends from TOB group won Best Costume, Best Speech, and Best Show; the judges selected her as first runner-up.

Mikayla makes a lovely young queen, sporting a gorgeous carnival costume and a stylish production. Second runner up was Majestic Carnival Group candidate Naomi Franjesca Geerman, who also came to the stage with a stunning themed costume. Youth Queen Elections are athletic events, with lively dancing and prancing, and all three candidates put



All three candidates with youth Prins and Pancho



Best Costume Youth Sue Gin Sangelie Arends of TOB

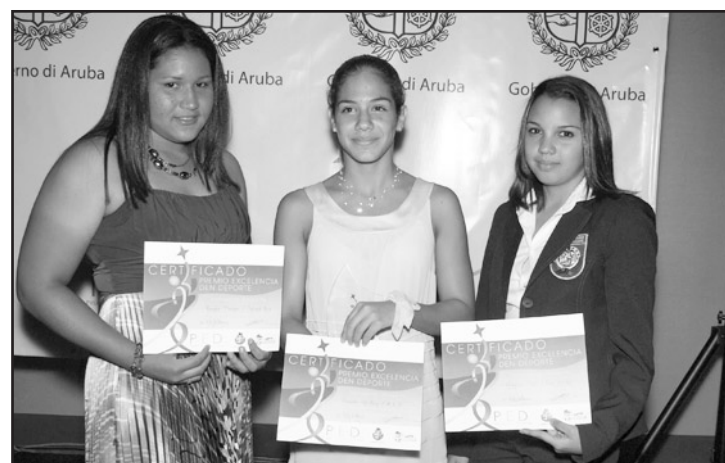
on an exhaustive and pleasing display of beauty and grace.

	<p>Tours fees: \$12 per adult, \$6 per child Tour Schedule: Every half hour from 9:00 AM until 4:00 PM every day of the week. Phone: (297) 585-9630 Fax: (297) 585-9629 E-mail: info@arubaostrichfarm.com www.arubaostrichfarm.com</p>	<p>Ostrich Farm</p> <p>20% Discount of the tour price when bringing this ad (discount not applicable with any other packages or promotions)</p> <p>WE offer Hotel pick-ups</p>	<p>Restaurant</p> <p>Kitchen Hours: 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM</p> <p>Allow us to tantalize your taste buds with our unique cuisine. We are confident that we have something to appease everyone's palate.</p>	<p>Gift shop</p> <p>African Art Shop, chock-full of authentic goods from Zimbabwe.</p>
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Stuart Ashley Smit named "Athlete of the Year 2010" Tears and cheers at the PED Awards



Team of the Year, Senior League World Champs, San Nicolas LL



Female Adult Athlete of the Year Danielle van der Berg for swimming racer and other finalists

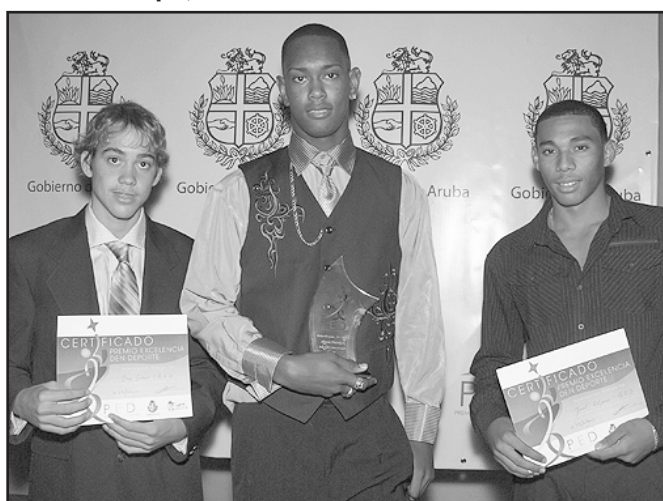


Special Athlete Miangelo Orman, track and field honored

Friday evening, February 11, Aruba's major sports organizations and the Minister of Public Health and Sport, Dr. Richard Visser, honored Aruba's accomplished athletes during a gala event at the Westin Aruba Resort.

The newly formalized Premio pa Excellencia den Deporte (Award for Excellence in Sport) is dedicated to athletes of today who are role models for island youth, as well as those of the past. Minister Visser welcomed the gathering of hundreds by first saluting Ernie Kervel, an icon of the sport of sailing on Aruba and the man who first brought international regattas to the island, on his passing in the autumn of 2010.

This year's winners in the



Male adult athlete of the year Shawn Duinkerck with other finalists

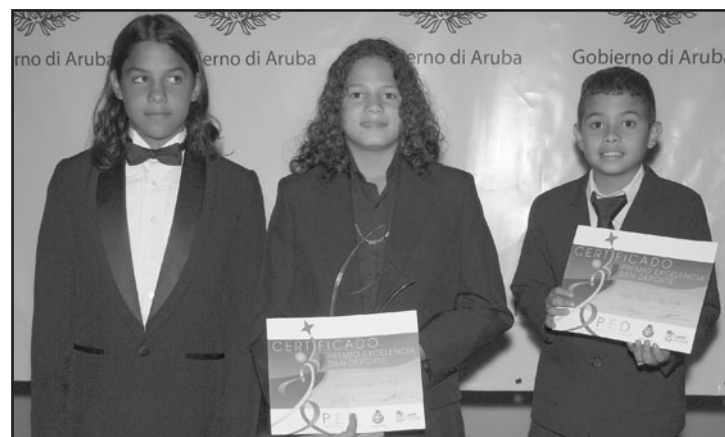


Trophies of Merit for lifetime achievement

13 and under category were Female: Kyra Hoevertz, synchronized swimmer, who had consistently won medals in both national and international competitions. Finalists included BMX biker Shanayah Howel and Jovanka Marks for Tae Kwon Do. The 13 and Under Male

Athlete 2010 was Zaithyel Sockander, who placed well in various BMX tournaments.

Danielle v/d Berg, a gold medal winner in swim racing, won Female Athlete of the Year; the other finalists were Riangel Flanegin for Softball and Wilyenie Croes for



Zaithyel Sockander Male Athlete of the Year under 13 years, BMX



Kyra Hoevertz, syncro swimmer, Female Athlete of the Year under 13 Tang Soo Do.

Shawn Duinkerck, who pitched the final winning game in the Senior League Latin Championships by Aruba this year, was named Male Athlete of the Year. This victory qualified Aruba to represent the division in the Senior League World Series in Bangor, Maine where Shawn then again took them to victory in the final game of the World Series.

Continue on pg 15



Hugo Theman honored for the Development of a Sport Weightlifting

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Tears and cheers at the PED Awards

Continued from PG 14

He and all his teammates received trophies as Team of the Year and a check of 10,000 Aruban florins (\$5,700) for their international triumph for Aruba. The Ministry of Sport also awarded them CD's of the ESPN coverage of their stunning win over the favored home team.

PED also acknowledged individuals who have dedicated a great deal of their lives to various sports in the past, by winning competitions both nationally and internationally, organizing and coaching island youth, and thus provided positive role-models for Arubians.

Five Merit of Honor Award winners from the ten nominated were: Francisco Charino for Softball, Glenroy Jonathan Lake for Soccer, Alberto Klaber for Tae Kwon Do, Enrique Gomes, Triathlon and Jeremy Loefstok for Weightlifting. Singled out for their contributions to the development of sports disciplines and lifetime achievement were also Hugo Theman for Weightlifting and Juan "Kick" Tromp.

The final award for Outstanding Athlete of the year

went to accomplished Tae Kwon Do competitor Stuart Ashley Smit, chosen from a field of ten finalists who are presently competing on behalf of Aruba in national and international arenas; all of them bring medals back home. Stuart was also awarded a check from the Ministry of Sport for 10,000 Aruban florins to assist him in continuing his training to travel to compete beyond his home island.

The PED Awards acknowledge the important principle of "a healthy mind in a healthy body;" this is a strong point in the program the Ministry of Public Health and Sports as necessary to the dilemma of youth obesity. By rewarding those who show the tenacity and determination to develop into champions, but locally and internationally, the PED program inspires young islanders. Milton Croes, coach of the San Nicolas LL team told the gathering "give a boy a bat, a ball and a place to play, and you will have a good citizen." THE MORNING NEWS congratulates all the outstanding athletes of 2010.



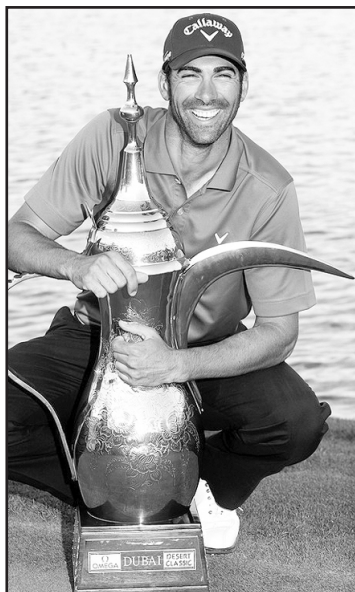
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Ace Quiros wins Dubai Desert Classic



DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AFP) - Spain's Alvaro Quiros rode a roller-coaster of a round to win the Dubai Desert Classic on Sunday.

The 28-year-old bomber from Cadiz clinched the biggest win of his career after an eagle-two at the second, a triple-bogey seven at the eighth, and, above all else, a hole-in-one at the 11th.

He came in with a four-under 68 and an 11-under total of 277 which gave him a one-stroke win over Dane Anders Hansen (70) and James Kingston of South Africa (67).

The win followed his second place finish behind Thomas Bjorn in Qatar last week and hoists Quiros into the lead in the European Tour's Race to Dubai. He will also move up to 21st in the world rankings, the highest of his career.

"The start was perfect with the eagle on two, but I was shaken after the eighth," he said.

"I was lucky with some putts around the turn and then a three-quarters wedge on the 11th - it was a perfect shot - once a year it happens."

Quiros started the day alongside Tiger Woods and Sergio Garcia in a seven way tie for fourth place one stroke behind

joint leaders Rory McIlroy, Thomas Aiken and Hansen.

But on the back of the eagle at the second, he grabbed the lead and was three strokes clear of the field after five holes.

Disaster struck, however, at the eighth.

He hit a wild drive and had to take a drop in sand, which, unfortunately for him plugged. His next shot ended stuck up a palm tree and he eventually staggered off with a triple bogey seven. The lead had vanished.

Anyone of around 20 golfers were in with a shout at that stage, but the risk-taking Quiros made the break

with a magnificent hole-in-one at the 11th where he hit a wedge from 161 yards.

A subdued Woods never really got going as he sought his first win in 15 months.

Bogeys at two and three gave him a dismal start and although birdies at the 6th and 11th offered a glimmer of hope, he dropped shots at the 12th and 14th to end his challenge with a disappointing 75.

McIlroy, seeking to repeat his breakthrough tour win here in 2009, also gave himself too much to do with bogeys at one and four. He played steadily enough after that, but was always playing catch up on the leaders.



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Stuart Ashley Smit named "Athlete of the Year 2010"

Tears and cheers at the PED Awards



Stuart Ashley Smit, "Athlete of the Year" receives a check for 10,000 Aruban florins from Minister of Sports Richard Visser. (see story inside on pg 14)

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Kvitova beats Clijsters to win Paris Open

PARIS, February 13, 2011 (AFP) - Petra Kvitova of the Czech Republic continued her impressive season with victory over Belgium's Australian Open champion Kim Clijsters in the final of the Paris Open on Sunday.

World number 18 Kvitova, 20, won the match in straight sets 6-4, 6-3 to claim her third career title and add a famous scalp to her growing list.

Clijsters had a neck problem and appeared fatigued after a triumphant start to the year, but Kvitova coped admirably with the pressure of facing such an experienced opponent, who was appearing in her fifth straight final.

"I'm so happy, what more can I say?" said the left-handed Kvitova.

"When you have Kim in front of you, you have nothing to lose. I had to be the first to hit the ball."

Kvitova, who reached the semi-finals at Wimbledon last year and the quarter-finals at the Australian Open, secured her first break of serve in Clijster's opening service game.

The Belgian fought her way back into the first set but Kvitova broke again to go 4-2 ahead, producing 14 winners to Clijsters' five and taking a one-set lead with a love game.

It was the same scenario in

the second set, with Kvitova procuring an early break before Clijsters fought back.

Clijsters appeared less mobile and less reliable with her serve than usual, however, and when Kvitova secured another break at 3-3, there was no way back.

"She put me under lots of pressure when she played in the middle of the court," said Clijsters. "As a result, I wasn't able to develop my best game."

Despite the defeat, Clijsters will be officially named the WTA's new world number one on Monday, with Kvitova set to move up to 14th.

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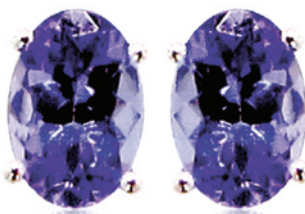


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